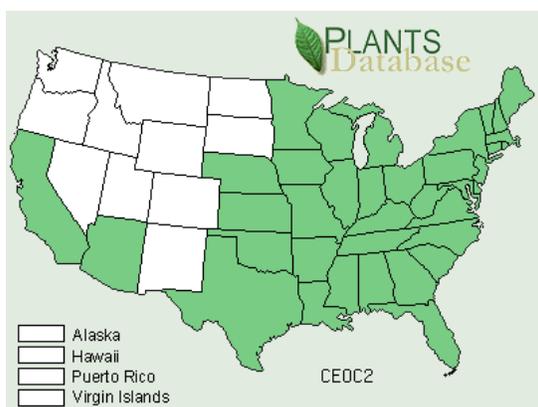


Field Collection of Common Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis* L.)

DESCRIPTION: Common Buttonbush is a native, multi-stemmed wetland shrub. Mature plant is up to 12 ft tall. White flowers in spherical clusters form one-inch diameter button-like seed heads. Dark green, glossy, deciduous foliage is opposite or whorled.



WHERE USUALLY FOUND:

Common Buttonbush is best adapted to swamps, pond borders, and stream banks with saturated soil and full sunlight. Naturally it ranges from Florida to Mexico and north to Nova Scotia and Ontario. While it will tolerate water depths up to three feet, it also grows in some upland conditions. Seed collected from Buttonbush on upland sites is of particular interest.



Robert H. Mohlenbrock. USDA SCS. 1989. *Midwest wetland flora: Field office illustrated guide to plant species*. Midwest National Technical Center, Lincoln, NE

WHAT TO COLLECT: Collect 25 to 50 mature seed heads representing the population you are sampling.

WHEN TO COLLECT: Collect seed heads in late summer when they are mature. The fruiting heads turn reddish brown when mature.

HOW TO HANDLE COLLECTION: Ship seed heads immediately after harvest in paper or cloth bag (not plastic), along with completed collection form, to:

Rose Lake Plant Materials Center
7472 Stoll Road
E. Lansing, MI 48823
517/641-6300 telephone



USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. *Illustrated flora of the northern states and Canada*. Vol. 3: 255.